

Together We Begin Fund

Full Application

Word Version

The Henry Smith Foundation only accepts applications via an online portal. The links are on our webpage. This template is a downloadable Word version to help you prepare your application. **You can not submit this version**.

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# Welcome

## Before you begin

Here are some tips to help you get started:

* [**Read the guidelines**](https://henrysmith.foundation/grants/together-we-begin/#funding)before filling in the form.
* **You can download a sample form** from [our website](https://henrysmith.foundation/grants/together-we-begin/#resources) to help you plan your answers.
* You can **add your colleagues** to work on the same form by clicking "Manage Applicants" in the top-right corner. You can find a step by step guidance [on grantsconnects website.](https://webfiles-sc1.blackbaud.com/files/support/helpfiles/grantsconnect/content/gc-applicants-collaborators.html)
* You can **change the owner** of this form by clicking "Manage Applicants" in the top-right corner.  You can find a step by step guidance on [on grantsconnects website.](https://webfiles-sc1.blackbaud.com/files/support/helpfiles/grantsconnect/content/gc-applicants-collaborators.html)
* If you want to **change contact** for this grant contact us. You can find the details on [our website.](https://henrysmith.foundation/contact-us/)
* You can find **frequently asked questions** for this fund on [our website](https://henrysmith.foundation/grants/together-we-begin/#faq).

## Using this form

Here are some tips to help you use this form:

* You can click ‘**Next**’ at the bottom of each page or use the tabs above to move between sections.
* Questions marked with a '**\***' are **mandatory**.
* **You can resize text boxes** by dragging the corner if you want more space.
* The form **auto-saves** as you go. You can come back and finish it later.
* **There is no need to send any extra documents**. We assess applications based on the information you give us here.
* **Please don’t include diagrams or tables**. These won’t be saved when you submit the form.
* **Avoid using real names or identifiable personal details** (except for the main contact).
* When answering questions concerning lived experience and your organisation, ensure you **do not provide information that could be used to identify individuals and their lived experience.** For this grant application, we do not need to, or want to, collect information about individuals and their lived experience.  We ask that you avoid using names, job titles or other references to individuals or groups of people that would make it possible to identify them, or enable speculation about their background and life experiences.

## Your application

Your organisation name

Pre-populated

Your application

Pre-populated

Your reference number

Pre-populated

# The Funding Request

In this tab, we ask that you provide us with more details about what you are seeking funding for.

**What are we looking for:**  Information that builds on what you told us in the expression of interest. We want more details about your organisation's practices, partnerships, impact measures and proposed outcomes.

## About your funding request

In the expression of interest form you gave us this summary of your services.

Pre-populated

1.1 Tell us more about your work.\*

We want to know how you work with families in a face-to-face home-based environment, including the typical support journey for a family and how you tailor support to individual family needs.

Max 300 words.

1.2 Tell us about your local area and how it affects your work.\*

We want to understand more about the local area and how its characteristics inform your work.

Max 300 words.

In the expression of interest form you gave us this information about the people and communities you work with.

Pre-populated

1.3 What communities do you work with and how do you engage families in local networks of support?\*

We are particularly interested in how you tailor your approaches to the different communities in your area.

Max 300 words.

1.4 How do you place community voice and lived experience at the heart of your services?\*

Max 300 words.

1.5 How do you implement strengths-based approaches in your work?\*

We want to know how you identify and build on family strengths, how you empower parents to develop resilience and your approach to supporting parenting skills development.

Max 300 words.

1.6 Tell us about any partnership working with local organisations.\*

We want to know about your key partner organisations and their roles, examples of joint working with specialist services and your relationships with statutory services.

Max 300 words.

1.7 In the expression of interest you gave us the number of families you expect to work with. Has this changed?\*

The number in the box has been pulled from your expression of interest. If this number has changed, please update the value.

Pre-populated

1.8 How will you measure success?**\***

We want to understand your theory of change or outcomes measurement tools/framework.

Max 300 words.

1.9 What impact do you hope to achieve with the funding?\*

We want to understand what success looks like for you. Provide the projected qualitative and quantitative outcomes you hope to capture.

Max 300 words.

1.10 If funding is approved, when will you need it to start?\*

Your grant can start within the first 6 months of 2026.

MM/YYYY

1.11 What work do you expect to deliver as part of this grant?\*

Choose the 3 activities that fit best. The first one you choose should be the main one.

**We have added our definitions at the bottom of this page.**

Select from drop-down

**If you select ‘Other’:**

Tell us what you mean by "Other."\*

Max 200 words.

## Definitions of type of work

**Service Delivery**

**Education, Skills & Training** Projects that help people learn new skills, get qualifications, or become more ready for work. Projects can help with reading, writing, maths, IT, learning English, or National Vocational Qualifications. It can also include after-school clubs and programs that improve access to technology. The goal is to support learning, build job skills, and prepare for work or apprenticeships.

**Information, Advice and Guidance**One-to-one or group support through information, advice, and guidance. This includes solving problems together and connecting people to other services if needed. The goal is to help people build confidence, make informed decisions, and navigate challenges.

**Life Skills & Personal Development** Programs that help people develop everyday skills. Skills include budgeting, parenting, healthy eating, or social skills. These are usually held in community places like youth clubs, women’s groups, or Home-Start. The focus is on personal growth, not formal qualifications.

**Peer support.** People are offered emotional, social and practical support. The support is from individuals who have similar lived experiences or are from the same community.

**Volunteering** Unpaid activity that helps others, outside of close family. It can build relationships, teach new skills, and improve mental and physical well-being. Unlike employment training, the focus is on personal well-being rather than job skills.

**Other** Select if the above does not represent your service delivery work.

**Improving Systems**

**Challenging status quo** Questioning systems and policies, advocating for new approaches to drive change.

**Convening / peer learning** Create opportunities for organisations to meet, share what they know, and learn from each other. This includes holding meetings, workshops, and networks where leaders and staff can share ideas, solve problems together, and improve their work.

**Evidence building**Collecting data and insights to understand societal challenges. The aim is to help find better solutions, making the case for change.

**Other** Select if the above does not represent your improving systems work.

# The Budget

Now that you've told us what you are seeking funding for, please provide details about the budget.

**What are we looking for:** An overview of your organisation's yearly costs, how much of this cost has been secured and a breakdown of how much you are applying for per year.

## Budget

2.1 How much of the total budget have you secured for what would be the first year of this grant?\*

Provide the total amount secured, not pending applications.

£

**Once you select from the drop-down:**

Upload a completed Income projection form.\*

You can find the form [**here**](https://henrysmith.foundation/income-projection-form/).

Upload document

2.2 Total amount per year:\*

Only provide the total amount you are requesting in each year from the Henry Smith Foundation.

Year 1\*

£

Year 2\*

£

Year 3\*

£

# Safeguarding

In this tab, please provide some additional information about your safeguarding.

**What we are looking for:** A better understanding of how you work with safeguarding.

3.1 Pick ALL the statements that show how your organisation handles safeguarding.\*

Select one statement at a time.

Select from drop-down

**Once you select from the drop-down:**

Tell us more. We would like to learn more about how you embed safeguarding practices into your work.\*

Max 300 words.

3.2 Upload relevant policies/procedures/guidance, outlining your practices for Safeguarding.\*

Upload document

# Other and Submit

In this final tab, we will ask you to answer some optional questions. Before submitting, you will also be asked to agree to our data protection statement.

## Additional information

4.1 Do you want to tell us anything else about your work or the organisation?

Max 300 words.

4.2 Do you have any feedback for us?

We’d like to know if you used the phone support option before sending this application. If you did was it helpful? Did the questions in this form make sense, and did you have any problems submitting it? Any ideas of how we can make the process better for you are welcome.

Max 500 words.

4.3 How long has it taken you to complete this application form?\*

To the nearest hour.

4.4 We invite you to complete the optional Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Data Standard survey about groups of people you support, your mission, and your leadership. Are you willing to take part in this survey?

We use this information to understand our applicants and grant holders better and to inform our strategy. We publish aggregated information to be transparent and accountable; you can opt out of this. We will not use this information to assess this application.

Select from drop-down

## Data protection

4.5 Do you agree with the below statements?\*

- I have read and agree to the Data Protection Statement

- I have received permission to share the personal information of all individuals named in this form

Select from drop-down

Select from drop-down

**Henry Smith Foundation Data Protection Statement**

We process all personal data provided to us in this form for the purposes of assessing your application, managing or monitoring any grant awarded and any related administration or research purposes in accordance with our privacy policy, a copy of which can be viewed [here.](https://www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk/privacy-policy/)

**Third party data**

No personal data concerning third party individuals should be included within your  form without their explicit knowledge, and informed consent, that this information will be shared with the Henry Smith Foundation and potentially other grant makers.

Before submitting this application, ensure you have not included any personal details or other information that could be used to identify people with relevant lived experience in your organisation.

Any additional excessive personal information will not be considered and immediately deleted. Can we please, therefore, ask that you do NOT include details of named or identifiable individuals apart from key contacts, for example, their job title, connection to your organisation, physical attributes or other descriptions, either in details of beneficiaries aided, case studies provided, or in any other information. Should you have particular reasons why such information should be provided to us, please contact us before sending us the information.

**Collaborating with other Grant Makers**

We reserve the right to disclose non-personal information, regarding your application, activities and organisation, to other grant makers unless you expressly request otherwise. No personal data will be shared with other grant makers for this purpose.

**Detection of fraud**

We reserve the right to share personal information to detect and prevent fraud and do not require your consent.

**If you opt-in to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Data Standard survey:**

# DEI

The questions in this section are designed to help us understand how our funding reaches different groups, particularly those who have historically faced disadvantage or discrimination. We know these are sensitive topics, and all questions are optional.

## Why are we asking these questions?

We are committed to measuring, monitoring and publishing information about DEI in relation to our grant making at the Henry Smith Foundation.

We would like to ask some questions about the people you support and about your organisation’s mission and leadership. This will help us better understand our applicants and grant holders and make informed decisions about grant-making programmes, taking into account DEI metrics.

These questions are part of the **DEI Data Standard**, which we are putting in place alongside other funders. The Standard was made by an independent working group of foundations and funders committed to adopting a shared framework for capturing DEI data. You can find out more about the group and the standard [here](https://www.funderscollaborativehub.org.uk/collaborations/dei-data-standard).

## What is Diversity, Equity and Inclusion?

At the Henry Smith Foundation, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are core to our values and how we approach our work. Below is how we understand and apply DEI:

* **Diversity** is about actively seeking out and ensuring people with different backgrounds, identities and life experiences can freely contribute ideas and perspectives.
* **Equity** means we work to understand and reduce barriers faced by the different groups of people we work with internally and externally.
* **Inclusion** is actively respecting and embedding diversity in how we work, think and make decisions and ensuring that all voices are heard.

These definitions guide our efforts to address the deeper, often invisible forces that create and sustain unfair outcomes for some communities.

## How we will use your information

We will **not** use this information when we assess grant applications. We will only use it to inform our own monitoring and strategy and consider how we can improve with regard to DEI.

Completing this form is not a condition of your application, and all questions are optional.

Responses you provide may be included in data we publish externally about our grant making, for example, to the [360Giving GrantNav website](https://grantnav.threesixtygiving.org/). This will support our transparency and accountability regarding the impacts of our funding and who it is reaching. It will also help the wider grant making sector identify and target funding to address structural inequities.

The data may be linked to your organisation’s name and will be publically available. If this raises any concerns, for example, around privacy, you can choose to opt out of sharing this data externally.

**Do you want to opt out of having your data published?**\*

For example, if you are a smaller organisation with a small number of Trustees and Senior Staff, the data you provide could be identifiable. We suggest you opt out of sharing this data publicly unless all Trustees and Senior Staff have given their consent.

Select from drop-down

## Definition of groups or communities

Here are the definitions of the categories you can select:

**a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity**
Communities that experience inequity as a result of their race or ethnic group. Ethnic group refers to the group that people self-identify with, which may be related to their national/geographical origin, skin colours, and other identities. This is often referred to as 'Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic'.

**b. Faith communities**
People who identify with and are part of a particular religious or spiritual tradition.

**c. Migrants**
People who are first-generation and/or recent migrants to the United Kingdom.

**d. Disabled people**
People who self-identify as disabled, with particular impairments, which have a long-term impact on their quality of life.

**e. Older people**
People aged 65 or over.

**f. Younger people**
People aged 25 or under.

**g. Women and girls**
People who self-identify and live as women or girls.

**h. LGBT+ people**
People who self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans+

**i. People who are educationally or economically disadvantaged**
People who self-identify as from an economically and/ or educationally disadvantaged background, including working class backgrounds, with long-term impact on their life outcomes; also people currently experiencing financial hardship.

**j. Welsh language speaking (Wales only)**
People who speak Welsh as part of their identity or community.

**k. Community groups (Northern Ireland only)**
Groups that reflect the community identity and context specific to Northern Ireland.

## Your Intended Beneficiaries

We'd like to ask if your project (project costs applications) or your organisation (running costs applications) targets or intends to benefit specific groups or communities of people that commonly or historically experience structural inequity. **Please only select a group if 75% or more of your beneficiaries come from that group.** 75% is the DEI Data Standard threshold for this question. We understand in many cases this can only be an estimate.

**Does your project or organisation intend to benefit specific groups or communities?**

If you work with specific groups or communities, select '**Yes**' and indicate the group or communities in the categories below. We understand that individuals may belong to multiple groups or communities so you can choose several, but 75% or more beneficiaries should share the characteristics of all groups you select. If this does not apply to your work, answer '**No**'.  For example: If 80% of the people you support are Asian women with a refugee status, you would select:

* a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity → Asian / Asian British
* c. Migrants → Refugees
* g. Women and girls → Women and girls

Select from drop-down

**If you select yes:**

a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity

Select from drop-down

b. Faith communities

Select from drop-down

c. Migrants

Select from drop-down

d. Disabled people

Select from drop-down

e. Older people

Select from drop-down

f. Younger people

Select from drop-down

g. Women and girls

Select from drop-down

h. LGBT+ people

Select from drop-down

i. People who are educationally or economically disadvantaged

Select from drop-down

j. Welsh language speaking

Only for organisations based in Wales

Select from drop-down

k. Community groups (Northern Ireland only)

Only for organisations based in Northern Ireland

Select from drop-down

## Your organisation’s vision and mission

We would like to understand whether your organisation is specifically set up to serve a particular group or community.

**Is there a specific group or community that your organisation is dedicating to serving?**

This might be referenced in your governing documents, strategy or public facing materials. If your organisation is set up to serve a specific groups or communities, select '**Yes**' and indicate the group or communities in the categories below.  You can choose several. If this does not apply to your work, answer '**No**'.

Select from drop-down

**If you select yes:**

a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity?

Select from drop-down

b. Faith communities

Select from drop-down

c. Migrants

Select from drop-down

d. Disabled people

Select from drop-down

e. Older people

Select from drop-down

f. Younger people

Select from drop-down

g. Women and girls

Select from drop-down

h. LGBT+ people

Select from drop-down

i. People who are educationally or economically disadvantaged

Select from drop-down

j. Welsh language speaking

Only for organisations based in Wales

Select from drop-down

k. Community Groups (Northern Ireland only)

Only for organisations based in Northern Ireland

Select from drop-down

## Your organisation’s leadership

We'd like to ask if most of the key decision-makers in your organisation belong to specific groups or communities. For this to be the case, as an indication, **75% or more of the Board of Trustees/ Management Committee AND 50% or more of senior staff** should be from the group or community. These are the DEI Data Standard thresholds for this question.

**Does your organisation's leadership self-identify in any of these groups or communities?**

If 75% or more. of the Board of Trustees/ Management Committee AND 50% or more of senior staff of your organisation leader self-identifies as belonging to specific group or community, select '**Yes**' and indicate the group or community in the categories below.  You can choose several. If this does not apply to your work, answer '**No**'.  For example: if 80% of the Board and 60% of management are both Asian and Refugees select:

* a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity → Asian / Asian British
* c. Migrants → Refugees

Select from drop-down

**If you select yes:**

a. Communities experiencing ethnic or racial inequity?

Select from drop-down

b. Faith communities

Select from drop-down

c. Migrants

Select from drop-down

d. Disabled people

Select from drop-down

e. Older people

Select from drop-down

f. Younger people

Select from drop-down

g. Women and girls

Select from drop-down

h. LGBT+ people

Select from drop-down

i. People who are educationally or economically disadvantaged

Select from drop-down

j. Welsh language speaking

Only for organisations based in Wales

Select from drop-down

k. Community Groups (Northern Ireland only)

Only for organisations based in Northern Ireland

Select from drop-down